

FOUNDRY AND ARMORY.

MEMORIAL

OF

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF ALABAMA,

IN RELATION

To the establishment of a foundry and armory in the State of Alabama.

JANUARY 25, 1848.

Read, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The General Assembly of the State of Alabama respectfully present to the consideration of your honorable body, that iron ore, stone coal, and other minerals of the best qualities, abound in the vicinity of the city of Tuscaloosa, and the counties immediately east and north, and with such contiguity and other advantages of water-power and timber (rarely to be equalled) as to afford one of the best—perhaps the very best—locations for a foundry and armory by the general government in the south or west. Many examinations of the minerals of this State have been made by distinguished geologists, which fully sustain the declaration; but we particularly refer you to the published accounts, about a year past, of Professor Lyell, of England, and the report of M. Tuomy, professor of geology in the university of Alabama, about to be made to the trustees thereof. The gulf of Mexico can be reached in two days from Tuscaloosa by steamboats for eight or nine months in the year. The advantages of such an establishment to the fortifications around the gulf, to the steamships and other vessels employed in its protection, and to the military defences of our extended western frontier, seem too apparent to justify any comment of ours; and as an examination and report by an officer of the Ordnance department, or some other capable agent, would be the most reliable information upon which to found wise legislation, we hope your honorable body will speedily despatch an officer to make full examination, and report the advantages of such an establishment in the mineral region of this State.

Resolved, That our Senators be, and are hereby instructed, and our Representatives in Congress are requested, to bring the subject of this memorial properly to the consideration of the general government.

Resolved, That the governor of this State, as soon as may be, furnish a copy of this memorial to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

L. P. WALKER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
JOHN A. WINSTON,
President of the Senate.

Approved December 31, 1847.

R. CHAPMAN.

